

AN ORDINANCE BY

COUNCILMEMBER ANNE FAUVER

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 94-37, CHAPTER 94 OF
ARTICLE II, HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION OF THE CODE OF
ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA SO AS TO DELETE THE
SUNSET PROVISION AND CONTINUE THE EXISTENCE OF THE
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, in the City of Atlanta, with its great cosmopolitan population consisting of large numbers of people of every race, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, parental status, physical and mental disabilities, there is no greater danger to the health, morals, safety and welfare of the city and its inhabitants than the existence of groups prejudiced against one another and antagonistic to each other because of their differences; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Council found and declared that prejudice, intolerance, bigotry and discrimination and disorder occasioned thereby threaten the rights and proper privileges of its inhabitants and menace the very institutions, foundations and bedrock of a free democratic society; and

WHEREAS, in December of 2000, the Human Relations Commission was created by the Council to serve as the official protector of the human relations principle to provide for an effective vehicle for addressing illegal discrimination in public accommodations, private employment and housing in the City; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance was amended in 2002 to clarify Commission appointments and staffing and to reflect proper enforcement provisions for violations of City ordinances; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 a provision was added that required that the Commission would sunset on January 1, 2006 without further action by the Atlanta City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City that the Human Relations Commission continue to exist.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA
HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. That Section 94-37 which presently reads as follows:

Sec. 94-37. Composition; appointment; terms.

The human relations commission shall consist of seven members, divided into three classes-Class A, Class B, and Class C. Class A shall contain three members, and Class B

and Class C shall each contain two members. After the phase-in period, members shall hold office for a three-year term staggered so that the membership terms of only one class of members shall expire each year. The initial members shall be appointed and designated to a class by the president of the council no later than January 1, 2001. The term of office of the initial Class A members shall expire on January 1, 2002; the term of office of the initial Class B members shall expire on January 1, 2003; and the term of office of the initial Class C members shall expire on January 1, 2004. After January 1, 2002, at the expiration of the terms of the initial Class A members, one Class A member shall be appointed by the president of council, one shall be appointed by the Mayor and one shall be appointed by the at-large councilmember in Post 1 in coordination with the councilmembers for Districts 1 through 4. At the expiration of the terms of the initial two Class B members, one Class B member shall be appointed by the mayor and one shall be appointed by the at-large councilmember in Post 2 in coordination with the councilmembers for Districts 5 through 8. At the expiration of the terms of the initial two Class C members, one Class C member shall be appointed by the president of council and one shall be appointed by the at-large councilmember in Post 3 in coordination with the councilmembers for Districts 9 through 12. At least one of the commission members appointed by the president of the council shall possess, in addition to the general qualifications set out in the Charter regarding members of the commission, a license to practice law in the State of Georgia and shall be an active member of and in good standing with the State Bar of Georgia. No person shall be appointed for more than two consecutive three-year terms. The membership of the commission shall reflect, as nearly as practicable, the diversity of individuals protected under this ordinance and shall be comprised without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, domestic relationship status, parental status, familial status, sexual orientation, national origin, or gender identity. The human relation commission will cease to exist on January 1, 2006, subject to the council's authority to continue its existence.

Shall be amended to delete the final sentence and read as follows:

Sec. 94-37. Composition; appointment; terms.

The human relations commission shall consist of seven members, divided into three classes-Class A, Class B, and Class C. Class A shall contain three members, and Class B and Class C shall each contain two members. After the phase-in period, members shall hold office for a three-year term staggered so that the membership terms of only one class of members shall expire each year. The initial members shall be appointed and designated to a class by the president of the council no later than January 1, 2001. The term of office of the initial Class A members shall expire on January 1, 2002; the term of office of the initial Class B members shall expire on January 1, 2003; and the term of office of the initial Class C members shall expire on January 1, 2004. After January 1, 2002, at the expiration of the terms of the initial Class A members, one Class A member shall be appointed by the president of council, one shall be appointed by the Mayor and one shall be appointed by the at-large councilmember in Post 1 in coordination with the councilmembers for Districts 1 through 4. At the expiration of the terms of the initial two Class B members, one Class B member shall be appointed by the mayor and one shall be

appointed by the at-large councilmember in Post 2 in coordination with the councilmembers for Districts 5 through 8. At the expiration of the terms of the initial two Class C members, one Class C member shall be appointed by the president of council and one shall be appointed by the at-large councilmember in Post 3 in coordination with the councilmembers for Districts 9 through 12. At least one of the commission members appointed by the president of the council shall possess, in addition to the general qualifications set out in the Charter regarding members of the commission, a license to practice law in the State of Georgia and shall be an active member of and in good standing with the State Bar of Georgia. No person shall be appointed for more than two consecutive three-year terms. The membership of the commission shall reflect, as nearly as practicable, the diversity of individuals protected under this ordinance and shall be comprised without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, domestic relationship status, parental status, familial status, sexual orientation, national origin, or gender identity.

Section 2. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances which are in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.